

Ben Jedd removes Boumediene aides

BEIRUT, June 9 (R)—A Paris-based news magazine reported today that Algerian President Chadli Ben Jedd had approved the removal of three close aides of late President Houari Boumediene, including former Foreign Minister Abdul Aziz Bouteflika, from the ruling National Liberation Front Party politburo. The Arabic-language weekly Al Mostabiq quoted no source for its report. It said the other two men were former Transport Minister Ahmed Draia and former Agriculture Minister Mohamed Tayebi Larabi. All three lost their ministerial posts in a reshuffle earlier this year. Mr. Bouteflika holds the post of adviser to President Ben Jedd in the new cabinet headed by Premier Mohamed Abdul Ghani. The magazine report said Mr. Bouteflika had gone to Paris. There was no confirmation of the report in Algiers. But informed sources there said Mr. Bouteflika had not taken part in any official meeting since Mr. Ben Jedd was elected president in February this year and the other two men had also been out of the limelight recently.

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Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

جordan Times يومية مستقلة تصدر عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية "الرأي"

AMMAN, SUNDAY-MONDAY JUNE 10-11, 1979 — RAJAB 15-16, 1399

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Regional Briefs

TEHRAN, June 9 (R)—About 900 ancillary workers at Iran's Abadan refinery complex have gone on strike to demand direct employment by the National Iranian Oil Company (NIOC), their representatives said today. The workers are currently employed by three private contractors responsible for painting, air conditioning and maintenance of administrative areas at the Gulf oil centre. Informed sources said work at the refinery itself would not be affected. The Abadan workers are the latest privately-employed staff to demand employment by the state in order to guarantee job security at a time when official estimates of unemployment in Iran range from one to 3.5 million.

SEOUL, June 9 (R)—South Korea's Energy and Resources Minister Chang Yie-Joon, left today for a 10-day visit to Saudi Arabia and other oil-producing countries in the Middle East to discuss oil supplies. Informed sources said he would look into the possibility of South Korea importing crude oil directly rather than through major international concessionaires. South Korea, which produces no oil, plans to import 196.6 million barrels of crude oil this year, compared with 166.5 million barrels last year.

LONDON, June 9 (R)—A 22-year-old Palestinian was sentenced to life imprisonment today for his part in a submachine-gun and grenade attack on an Israeli airline crew bus in London in which a stewardess was killed. In sentencing Jerusalem-born Fahad Mihyi, Sir Hugh Griffiths said only by "the merest chance" were more people not killed in the attack on Aug. 20 last year. Mihyi was found guilty of murdering Irit Gidron and attempting to murder Judith Arnon, who was shot in the head in the attack. He was accompanied by another pro-Palestinian commando who blew himself up in the attack or was killed by an explosion from one of Mihyi's grenades.

MUSCAT, June 9 (R)—Omani Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Qais Al Zawawi held talks in Muscat today with British Foreign Office Deputy Undersecretary Anthony Parsons. Radio Oman said the talks dealt with bilateral relations and other issues of mutual interest. Later, Sir Anthony had an audience with Sultan Qaboos, the radio said.

BAGHDAD, June 9 (R)—Iraq today decided to form a consultative council to advise the state on legal matters. The Iraq News Agency, reporting this, said the decision was taken by the Revolutionary Command Council (RCC) ruling in the country. It added that the new council, to be made up of a chairman, two vice-chairmen and a number of assistants, would replace a legal department set up over 50 years ago.

Bahrain, Singapore call for new world economic order

SINGAPORE, June 9 (R)—Bahrain and Singapore today condemned the pro-

tectionist policies of developed countries and called for the establishment of a new international economic order.

A joint statement, issued at the end of a five-day visit to Singapore by the Emir of Bahrain, Sheikh Isa Bin Sulman Al Khalifa, said U.N. resolutions on a new world economic order should be implemented.

They called on developed countries to refrain from introducing any protectionist measures that would be "inimical to the interests of developing countries."

On the Palestine and Middle East questions the two sides called for a just and lasting settlement based on all United Nations resolutions.

The statement said the Emir and Singapore Prime Minister Lee Kwan Yew discussed an economic agreement signed during the visit would help increase two-way trade and strengthen economic relations between the two countries, it said.

Details of the economic agreement were not disclosed.

Bahrain's Sheikh Isa Bin Sulman Al Khalifa

Prime Minister Lee Kwan Yew of Singapore



Pope visits 'long, symbolic struggle' town

NOWA HUTA, Poland, June 9 (R)—Pope John Paul today visited the area where Poland's Communist authorities tried to build a city without God, and found it packed with cheering Roman Catholics.

Visiting the shrine of Mogila Monastery, the Pope recalled the long and symbolic struggle with the Communist authorities to build a church at the adjoining steelmill complex of Nowa Huta. It took 10 years to win permission to build the church at

The Pontiff contented himself



The truck carrying Pope John Paul II and his entourage slowly drives through the hundreds of thousands of faithful from the mountain area of Poland, who came to Nowa Huta to meet the Pontiff during his visit to his homeland, Friday. (AP wirephoto)



AMMAN, June 9 (JNA) — Some 43 athletes from the Jordanian armed forces today started a five-day tournament of Tae Kwon Do (Korean karate) organised by the military sports federation. His Highness Crown Prince Hassan, who attended the first session of the games, distributed certificates to a number of participants who excelled in the first

day's performance. Attending with the Crown Prince were Minister of Culture and Youth Sharif Fawwaz Sharaf, the commander in chief of the Jordanian armed forces Lt. Gen. Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker as well as a number of high ranking army officers.

Israeli-backed militias, U.N. Dutch troops clash in southern Lebanon

AL MANSOURI, Lebanon, June 9 (R)—Israeli-backed rightist militias clashed with Dutch United Nations forces at a village checkpoint in southern Lebanon today and then bombarded the area with artillery.

Corporal Edward Keel of the Dutch U.N. peace-keeping force (UNIFIL) in the region told reporters that a group of rightist militiamen opened up with machine-guns at dawn in an attempt to advance to the centre of Al Mansouri village following unconfirmed reports of infiltration by Palestinian commandos.

"The Dutch force had to return the fire and prevented the militiamen from entering the centre of Al Mansouri," he added.

After the Dutch troops retreated, he said, rightist artillery positions at Tallet Al Bayyada began shelling the village.

Dutch reinforcements were today seen forming a security belt around the village to prevent the infiltration of armed men.

Palestinian sources said Israeli and rightist gunners overnight shelled Palestinian-leftist strongholds in the region's central sector.

The state-run Beirut Radio said four people were wounded and material damage was caused in the bombardment of the market town of Nabatijeh and nearby villages.

Israeli aircraft today kept up their flights over the coast of southern Lebanon, but made no strikes.

In Beirut today, Norwegian

with referring to the Nowa Huta church in 1960 when police tried to move the cross, which stood on the selected site.

The Pope said the church had no fear of the industrial world, and recalled how he himself worked as a labourer in the local Zakrzewek quarries during the Nazi occupation.

Inside the monastery chapel, the Pope blessed a picture of the Madonna with which thousands of Nowa Huta parishioners had marched in procession earlier this week. They had hoped that the Pope himself would install the picture in their church, but he was unable to do so.

The Pontiff, who has carried out a hectic and gruelling programme from dawn to midnight over the last eight days, then flew back by helicopter to Krakow, where cheering crowds greeted him once more.

This evening, Pope John Paul visited the military section of Krakow's Rakowicki cemetery to pray at the tomb of his parents—his father, retired army lieutenant Karol Wojtyla, and his mother, Emilia, who died giving birth to his third child, a girl, who was stillborn.

The Pope's only brother, Edward, died from an epidemic of scarlet fever in the hospital where he worked as a doctor.

Well-informed sources added that Italy was expected to provide a fresh unit. Mr. Longva told Reuters that the Norwegian team, which is made up of volunteers, will have completed a six-month contract. He said "We have informed the U.N. that we have been unable to recruit another unit. The problem is that helicopter crews are in demand by oil companies operating in the North Sea, which offer higher salaries."

The Norwegian team lost four people during their risky tour in the troubled south. Four of its aircraft were damaged by shelling from rightist militias in April, but there were no casualties.

The new managing directors of the nationalised banks will be named by a specially created banking body consisting of the prime minister, the minister of finance, the ministers of commerce, mines and industry, housing, agriculture and the chief of the plan and budget organisation.

The nationalisation of private banks appeared today to have been decided over the heads of key economic officials.

Central bank sources said:

Planning and Budget Organisation Director Ali Moinfar said the authorities had decided to safeguard what he called the legitimate interests of foreign shareholders in Iran's private banking system. The value of these interests has been estimated by banking experts at \$100 million.

In the first detailed statement on how yesterday's nationalisation measure would affect foreign interests, Mr. Moinfar said: "The government does not intend to confiscate the capital of foreign shareholders. This capital will, after legal and financial investigations, be repaid."

The "Voice of the Islamic Republic" radio quoted Mr. Moinfar as saying that the nationalised banks would have to function according to Islamic principles. But the Governor of

the Central Bank, Dr. Ali Movlavi, said this did not mean that interest charges on loans could be dropped.

Dr. Movlavi, who today began detailed studies of how the nationalisation would work in practice, said: "Within the framework of the existing rules, we can neither lower interest rates or eliminate them."

Iran's unofficial head of state, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, has repeatedly demanded the abolition of interest charges, arguing that they violate Islam's ban on usury.

The Ayatollah and Iran's ruling Muslim clergy are considered to have been the moving spirits behind the nationalisation move—the most revolutionary step taken so far in restructuring an economy shattered by months of revolution.

Dr. Movlavi, in a radio interview, said the legitimate rights of Iranian shareholders as well as foreign ones would be safeguarded.

Explaining the reasons for the nationalisation, Dr. Movlavi said that, in spite of the support of the Central Bank, the private banks had been unable to provide the loans for industry and agriculture which the country needed. The government had therefore decided to intervene in order to contribute to the economic revival of Iran, he added.

Since being named head of the Central Bank, Dr. Movlavi, 63, an economist, has appeared anxious to boost international business confidence in Iran and improve his country's creditworthiness.

The real test of the nationalisation's impact of the public will come when the banks reopen for normal business after today's and tomorrow's enforced holiday.

Dr. Bazargan indicated yesterday that one reason for the takeover was that some banks were facing financial difficulties.

According to a draft text of Iran's proposed constitution leaked to the press last April, insurance companies and heavy industry will also be nationalised.

Strauss to play passive role at autonomy talks

TEL AVIV, June 9 (R)—President Carter's personal envoy to negotiations between Egypt and Israel on Palestinian autonomy said today he thought the U.S. role in the talks should be passive at the beginning.

Mr. Robert Strauss told Israel Radio in an interview in Washington that he was not surprised by the completely divergent viewpoints expressed recently by Israeli and Egyptian representatives to the talks, due to start in Alexandria on Monday. "I am not surprised by the negotiating posture of Israel and Egypt right now. It is certainly more extreme than I expected it to be," he said.

Negotiations traditionally

began with both sides staking out extreme positions, he added.

Mr. Strauss said: "At the present time, our (U.S.) role is a bit more passive -- to see how far our other two partners can come to moving this venture."

"Then when they need our strong entry and leadership rather than a passive or monitoring role, we will be prepared to assume our full responsibility as a partner," he said.

Mr. Strauss will not attend next Monday's negotiating session but will join in later meetings.

Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan said last night he had still not decided whether to join the Israeli team for the second negotiating session with the Egyptians on Palestinian autonomy.

Local press reports say Mr. Dayan is offended that the Israeli negotiating team is headed by Interior Minister Yosef Burg rather than by himself. He told a television interviewer he would decide on the eve of the trip whether he would go to Alexandria on Monday for the talks.

Mr. Dayan is also reported to disagree with Dr. Burg's negotiating strategy. It was only after fervent opposition by Mr. Dayan and Defense Minister Ezer Weizman that the Israeli cabinet decided not to present its "tough autonomy plan" to the Egyptians but rather to use it as a guideline for the negotiations.

Mr. Dayan was asked to comment on remarks by Prime Minister Menachem Begin and Mr. Weizman about a tough Israeli response if the proposed Palestinian administrative council proclaimed sovereignty or if the Egyptians violated the Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty.

He replied: "My opinion is not different...the Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty does not include the establishment of a Palestinian state or to be elected proclaims one day an independent state and takes such measures...Israel must see to it that its rights are not infringed..."

Thorny non-aligned issues referred to Havana summit

COLOMBO, June 9 (R)—The formal closing session of a non-aligned ministerial meeting was delayed for several hours tonight as delegations tried to agree on a description of the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty.

Arab states, led by Iraq and Syria, are demanding Egypt's suspension from the 88-nation non-aligned movement because the peace treaty violated non-aligned principles.

But the move has been strongly opposed by some countries, especially balek African states, and the issue now will be referred to the full summit of the movement in Havana in September.

Delegation sources said a political committee was trying to phrase a section of the proposed final declaration devoted to the Middle East in a manner acceptable to all sides.

They said delegates to the four-day meeting here were also trying to reconcile differences between Algeria and Morocco over the Western Sahara, where Algerian-backed Polisario rebels are fighting for independence.

The 25-nation coordinating bureau of the movement is also expected to pass on to the Havana summit the issue of who should represent Kampuchea in the group.

But, despite opposition from neighbouring Afghanistan, the bureau recommended that the Havana meeting should admit Pakistan and Iran to the non-aligned movement along with Surinam, Grenada and Bolivia.

Their final declaration which will go before the September summit will also include an economic section expressing grave concern at what they termed the unsatisfactory outcome of the recent Manila meeting of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).

Iran and Pakistan told the meeting they had severed links with the Central Treaty Organisation (CENTO) earlier this year and were now genuinely non-aligned. They denied they were interfering in the internal affairs of other countries.

Afghanistan's Education Minister, Mr. Abdul Rachid Jalili, said

yesterday that the two countries were "using Islam as an instrument of their destructive political ends."

Mr. Jalili reiterated the charges again today after Pakistani Foreign Adviser Agha Shahi told the conference his country was willing to open bilateral negotiations on Afghan refugees in Pakistan.

However, Mr. Jalili said Afghanistan would support Pakistan's application for full membership if it stopped interfering in his country's internal affairs by the time of the movement's Havana summit in September.

Pakistani weapons had been seized in the hands of "gangsters" operating in Afghanistan," Mr. Jalili said. He added that there were camps in Pakistan for training "bandits and terrorists" to be sent into Afghanistan.

Earlier, Iran's Under-Secretary for Economic and International Affairs, Mr. Ali Sadeghi Tehrani, said his country's new revolutionary government was opposed to all military arrangements and blocs.

The two issues of Kampuchea representation and the Arab move to have Egypt suspended from the non-aligned movement overshadowed the four-day conference here but Indian External Affairs Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee dismissed the idea that the movement was going through an unprecedented crisis.

Mr. Vajpayee told reporters: "There were prophets of gloom who predicted that the movement would be divided in Colombo but they were proved to be wrong."

He said the Kampuchean question was not allowed to break up the unity of the movement.

But there was no decision on whether the ousted Pol Pot government or the Vietnamese-backed Heng Samrin administration in Phnom Penh should occupy the Kampuchean seat.

Delegation sources said 10 bureau members favoured the seating of the Pol Pot government without the right to speak, a compromise worked out at an earlier bureau meeting in Maputo and accepted here, and eight wanted both delegations out until the issue had been resolved.

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JORDAN TIMES

Irzeit U. head steps up effort to arouse world opinion on closure

Khoury
Jordan Times

An escalating national attention-old closure by the Israeli authorities imperious after a at the United Amman Nasir, the university.

Amman last Jordan Times in flying off to continue his Birzeit University group he had United States had issue in public, in the United (who was to be Israeli occupied 1974 without tried in court as professors, journalists, members Representatives Draper, Deputies of State in the East and South

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to the United intention to closed West Bank nger academic in rights and to manage institutions."

the U.S. State a statement open Birzeit

A group of evangelical Christian leaders meeting in La Grange, Illinois, issued a statement on May 20 which challenged the Israeli's claim to Palestine based on biblical or divine right theories and specifically protested the Israeli practice of closing Palestinian universities and schools in the occupied areas.

On May 24, the Church and International Affairs Committee of the United Presbyterian Church adopted a resolution affirming the church's support for Birzeit University, calling on the Israeli occupation authorities to reopen it immediately, and directing church officials to bring the resolution to the attention of American government officials, the Israeli ambassador in Washington and the secretary general of the United Nations.

The Palestine Human Rights Campaign, a Washington-based group led by independent American human rights activists, has initiated a campaign by which American citizens are urged to send cables to the Israeli ambassador in Washington and the minister of defense in Israel demanding the immediate reopening of Birzeit University.

Dr. Nasir held a press conference in Washington on May 26 in which he appealed for help in reopening the university.

On June 7, New York Times columnist Anthony Lewis wrote that "Israel must harden its heart so much that it can close the West Bank's leading university, Birzeit, on 'security' grounds that would not satisfy the rulers of South Africa."

A Committee of Concern for Birzeit University has been established by the Palestine Human Rights Campaign, and can be contacted at 1322 18th Street, N.W., Washington, DC, 20036.

Dr. Nasir explained to the Jordan Times the background of the closure of Birzeit University:

"The order for closing the university came at the end of what had begun as a calm day in Birzeit. Israel was celebrating the thirty-first anniversary of its establishment and high school students in Birzeit, as elsewhere in the West Bank, went on a protest

march late in the morning. Afterwards, a university student was wounded by an armed Israeli civilian -- a member of the extremist Gush Emunim group -- who had been on his way to a new Israeli settlement in the vicinity but instead, drove close to the university and shot at students on the campus.

The situation was aggravated by army units that arrived and besieged the campus, placing it under curfew. At 9 p.m. the order to close the university was issued. In the meantime, nearly 150 students who were on their way home had their identity cards confiscated, thus making them liable to immediate arrest at any of the several army checkpoints that are always present in the West Bank. When they reported afterwards to collect their cards, they were held for several hours and interrogated; some of them were beaten in an attempt to coerce them to sign false confessions; seven are still under arrest.

During the afternoon of Thursday, May 3, a group of high ranking Israeli army officers came to the university without prior notice to conduct a search of the campus. University officials protested this unprecedented intrusion into the campus. The search order stated that "there is reason to suspect that in the campus there are objects which are subject to seizure," but no such objects were found or seized when the search was carried out.

On Friday, May 10, an army unit surrounded the house of two American students at the University, twins Carl and Michael Derrick, aged 20. They were served with a deportation order and hastily taken, under armed escort, to police headquarters in occupied Jerusalem. A lawyer managed to obtain a three-day stay of the deportation order, but the students were detained in Jerusalem and deported on Monday.

"The order for closing the university came at the end of what had begun as a calm day in Birzeit. Israel was celebrating the thirty-first anniversary of its establishment and high school students in Birzeit, as elsewhere in the West Bank, went on a protest

day, May 14." Dr. Nasir said that news coverage of the university in Israeli media during recent months had become increasingly hostile and misleading. The university therefore decided to hold a press conference for foreign correspondents on Monday, May 14, to present its point of view and to highlight facts underlying the events of the past two weeks that had been misreported or ignored. The press conference was not held because it was banned by the occupation authorities.

The closing of the university on May 2 was the second time within the past few weeks that the university was closed by Israeli military order. The first order came on the eve of the signing of the separate Egyptian-Israeli treaty and was effective from March 26 to April 1; it stated that the closing of the university was "necessary for the security of the Israeli forces and for the preservation of law and order."

The university protested this unjustified action and the unfounded allegation that the preservation of law and order require closing the university.

Dr. Nasir charged that "the recent harassment of Birzeit University by the occupation authorities, culminating in its closure, is a serious intensification of the active hostility and obstructionism that characterizes the policy of the Israeli authorities towards the university. Previous examples of this policy include a rampage by soldiers in the men's

their research, and those who wish to conduct field work in schools are prevented from carrying it out. Acquisition by the university of non-political academic books and journals in Arabic is severely restricted. The Israeli authorities have not honoured the customs-exempt status which the university had enjoyed before the occupation, thus burdening its budget for vitally needed equipment. Work permits for foreign faculty members, which are normally routine, are delayed for months. The Community Work Programme of the university, in which students work on rural, health or educational projects that benefit the population, has been seriously handicapped by the refusal of permission for work-camps as well as by army harassment of students participating in one-day projects."

"It is clear that the interference of the Israeli military occupation authorities has gravely hindered the normal and legitimate academic functions of Birzeit University. This interference has compromised and violated the rights of the university as an institution of learning. It has created an atmosphere of terror and uncertainty in the university and among its students and faculty, which stifles the spirit of intellectual inquiry."

"Many other instances of interference with the normal and legitimate operations of the university can be cited. Students working for a teaching certificate were barred this year from the customary practice-teaching in high school. Graduate students in the Department of Education are denied access to data needed for

because the university is a serious academic institution that is determined to fulfil its responsibilities and obligations scrupulously. This determination is evidenced by the continued growth and development of the university despite the severe obstacles that are placed in its way. It is also reflected in the international support and recognition that it has earned. To counter this reality, Israel has attempted to fabricate a false image of the university that portrays it as a political centre rather than as an academic institution and that burdens it with responsibilities beyond the scope of its actual concerns and impinges on its motives that are not its own. At the same time, this false image is intended to turn Birzeit University into a convenient scapegoat for the military occupation command which finds itself unable to deal with the deep and growing resentment and discontent that prevail throughout the occupied areas."

"I accuse Israel of systematically obstructing and interfering with Birzeit University and of harassing and intimidating its administration, faculty and students."

"I accuse Israel of trying to undermine Birzeit University because the spirit of intellect that it presents, Israel with strongest love: the truth."

"I affirm the right of Birzeit University to perform its nor and legitimate functions as an academic institution, and the of every member of the university community to teach, to learn to conduct research guided by the criteria of academic excellence and intellectual integrity and unrestricted by the threat or the use of force."

"I affirm the right of every member of the Birzeit University community to freedom of speech and of individual and collective expression by peaceful means."

"I appeal to all individuals organisations concerned with freedom of education to do their utmost to ensure that Birzeit University is reopened immediately and that it is accorded the rights that are guaranteed to academic institutions everywhere."



Dr. Hanna Nasir, president of Birzeit University

hosted in March, 1976, in which 15 students were injured. There was also my own deportation without trial in November, 1974. Faculty member Tayseer Attari was arrested in April, 1974; he was detained for 45 months without being tried or even charged. The university was closed by military order for two weeks in December, 1973, in the wake of demonstrations throughout the West Bank to protest the deportation of eight residents of the West Bank.

"Many other instances of interference with the normal and legitimate operations of the university can be cited. Students working for a teaching certificate were barred this year from the customary practice-teaching in high school. Graduate students in the Department of Education are denied access to data needed for

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French franc	69.06/69.50	
Italian lire (for every 100)	35.90/36.10	
Japanese yen (for every 100)	140.10/140.20	
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1986	JD 5,000	100	501	5.010	5.010

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JORDAN TIMES SPORTS ROUNDUP

Evert wins French tennis crown

ARIS, June 9 (R)—American world tennis champion Chris Evert, 24, today won the French women's singles title for the third time, beating Wendy Turnbull of Australia 6-2, 6-0 in an undistinguished final. Turnbull only once led the American, at 2-1 in the first set. Evert won the next 11 games to sew up the match in 53 minutes. The 26-year-old Turnbull, who comes from Brisbane, had never beaten Evert in nine previous meetings and she rarely looked as if she believed in her chances today. Evert dictated the pace of the match from the baseline, deliberately engaging her opponent in long rallies, and time and again the Australian lost patience and hit out. The world champion was some way from her best form too, but it hardly seemed to matter. Turnbull, rated fifth in the world at present, had been expected to try and break the American's rhythm by moving up to the net at every opportunity.

European basketball tourney opens

ROME, June 9 (R)—The European Basketball Championship opens today with 12 nations battling in three cities and host Italy determined to snatch the title from defending champion Yugoslavia. Divided in three groups, the qualifying matches for next week's finals in Turin take place in the north Italian towns of Gorizia and Mestre and in the medieval city of Siena in central Italy. Italy base their title hopes on painstaking preparations and meet Czechoslovakia, Greece and Belgium in Mestre. They should have no difficulty qualifying for the finals along with the Czechoslovak squad, although star Fabrizio della Fiori dropped out yesterday with a leg injury. Yugoslavia face an equally easy task in Gorizia where they are grouped with Israel, Poland and France.

Baseball Standings

National League

EAST	W	L	Pct.	GB
Montreal	30	20	.600	—
St. Louis	29	21	.580	1
Pittsburgh	28	23	.549	2½
Philadelphia	29	26	.527	3½
Chicago	23	28	.451	7½
New York	20	31	.392	10½

WEST	W	L	Pct.	GB
Houston	35	24	.593	—
Cincinnati	31	25	.554	2½
Los Angeles	28	31	.415	7
San Francisco	27	31	.466	7½
San Diego	27	33	.450	8½
Atlanta	21	35	.375	12½

Friday's games
Los Angeles 11, Chicago 4, 6½ innings
Pittsburgh 3, San Francisco 2
Atlanta 11, Philadelphia 5, 10 innings
Houston 5, New York 0
Cincinnati 3, Montreal 2
San Diego 8, St. Louis 7, 10 innings.

American League

EAST	W	L	Pct.	GB
Baltimore	35	21	.625	—
Boston	33	21	.611	—
Milwaukee	32	26	.552	4
New York	31	26	.540	4½
Detroit	25	35	.500	7
Cleveland	26	38	.481	9
Toronto	15	42	.263	20½

WEST

USSR slams Carter's decision Vast areas of U.S. desert necessary for MX missile system

WASHINGTON, June 9 (R)—Vast areas of the picturesques deserts in the southwest of the United States will become a warren of ditches or tunnels in the 1980s as a result of President Carter's decision to develop fully a new mobile missile system.

The White House announced yesterday that 200 MX missiles, the first strategic nuclear system to be built by the United States in a decade, would be produced to counter new weapon challenges from the Soviet Union.

But to prevent the 335-ton missiles from being knocked out by increasingly accurate Soviet weaponry, they will be moved constantly between 8,800 firing points spaced out along a web of 200 separate tracks.

There has been no decision so far on whether the tracks will be

underground or whether they will be laid in open trenches. Either way, they will present a blot on the desert landscape.

If the missile roadways are underground, the land above would be available for grazing and public use, but Defence Department officials said about 1.6 hectares around early missile launching pad would be fenced off and barred to the public.

But if the roadways were in open trenches, they would have to be fenced off along their entire length.

Also undecided is how much of the system will be left uncovered and exposed to the view of Soviet satellites monitoring U.S. compliance with the SALT II treaty.

Officials said the MX programme was being introduced to reassure the American public that the Soviet Union would not gain a nuclear arms advantage in the next decade under SALT II, which is to be signed next week in Vienna by President Carter and Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev.

The officials said that when word was received of an enemy

launching an explosive device would blow off the protective cap over the firing site, the 22-metre missile would rear up on its mobile launcher and blast off towards its target.

Soviet reaction

Meanwhile, the Soviet Communist Party newspaper Pravda today described President Carter's decision to approve development of the MX mobile missile as "unjustified and dangerous."

The comment came in a headline over a brief report on last night's White House announcement that Mr. Carter had given the green light to the missile.

At the same time, in an article written before the announcement, the Kremlin organ said development of the MX would be a violation of the spirit of SALT II.

The article, by Pravda's Washington correspondent Nikolai Kuryumov, said opponents of SALT II in the U.S. were trying to push the administration into launching new military programmes "in payment for agreement to the treaty."

Nicaraguan forces begin apparent counter-offensive

MANAGUA, June 9 (R)—Government planes yesterday started and bombed a town only 26 kilometres from the capital of this Central American state in what looked like the start of a counter-offensive against left-wing Sandinist guerrillas who have partially seized five cities.

The planes pounded the town of Masaya, southeast of Managua, in a bid to halt the guerrillas' advance on the capital.

The planes came twice today, starting and pouring rockets on the town's main streets, a Red Cross worker told Reuters by telephone from Masaya.

He said the bombing appeared aimed at the poor neighbourhood of Moronbo, where Indians

headed an insurrection against the rightist government of General Anastasio Somoza last year.

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